

Douglas Stephen A. — Death

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Contemporaries

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Abraham Lincoln's Contemporaries

Stephen A. Douglas
Death

Excerpts from newspapers and other sources

From the files of the
Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection

NDAY, JUNE 3, 1861.

DEATH OF SENATOR DOUGLAS. The telegraph brings the sad but not unexpected intelligence, that Senator Douglas died this morning at 9 o'clock. This event, in the present position of public affairs, must be regarded as a national calamity, as the name of Judge Douglas was a tower of strength to the cause of Union. His last public acts were devoted to the service of that country with which his name has become historically associated. They were of so patriotic a character as to call forth commendation from many of those who never before had regarded him with favor.

Mr. Douglas was born in Brandon, Rutland county, Vermont, April 23d, 1813. His father died when he was young, and he went to Canandaigua, N. Y., with his mother, who had married again. In 1831 he removed to Cleveland, Ohio, and from thence to Jacksonville, Illinois. During his minority he worked as a cabinet maker, served as an auctioneer's clerk, and a teacher. The offices he successively held were Attorney General of Illinois, at the age of 22, member of the Illinois Assembly, Register of the land office, (appointed by President Van Buren,) Secretary of State, Judge of the Supreme Court, member of Congress from 1843 for two terms, and United States Senator from 1847 to the present time.

He was named for the Presidency in 1843, but his name was not pressed till 1852, when he at one time received one more vote in the Democratic National Convention than either of his rivals. In 1856 he received 121 votes to 168 for Mr. Buchanan. In 1860 he was nominated under circumstances which will be freshly remembered by every reader.

As a delegate he was almost unrivalled by any of his Senatorial brethren—and no orator without great natural gifts could stand at his side before the people, without being overthrown. President Lincoln, doubtless, owes his present high station more to his debates with Mr. Douglas than to any other single agency.

It will ever be an honorable chapter in the life of Mr. Douglas, that when the great conspiracy against this republic was openly revealed, he went to the President, and pledged his support in all lawful measures to the cause of the Union. He went to the West, and was warmly welcomed by former political opponents as well as friends, and rallied the men of Indiana and Illinois to the vindication of outraged law.

In speaking of this last act of the Senator, the New York Commercial Advertiser truly remarks: "This was worthy of Mr. Douglas in his best days. For he has won a large measure of popular gratitude, and over the grave of one cut down in the plenitude of his powers, will be shed the tears of those who have during his whole political career opposed him as a dangerous man. Mr. Douglas's last acts will at once give him a high place in the National Pantheon."

From the New American Cyclopaedia we learn that Mr. Douglas was married, April 7, 1847, to Miss Martha D. Martin, daughter of Col. Robert Martin of Rockingham County, N. C., by whom he had three children, two of whom are living. She died November 20, 1856. He was again married, January 19, 1859, to Miss Adele Cutts, a daughter of James Madison Cutts of Washington, D. C., Second Controller of the Treasury.

It will be seen by the telegraphic despatches that the remains of Mr. Douglas will be brought to Washington for burial.

THE DEATH OF SENATOR DOUGLAS.

Chicago, 3d. The remains of Mr. Douglas will lay in state at Bryan Hall until taken to Washington. The Board of Trade and Courts adjourned at an early hour today. Flags are flying at half-mast, and other mourning demonstrations are being made by the citizens.

Springfield, Ill., 3d. At a meeting here today, attended by the State, Congressional, District and Municipal dignitaries, a committee was appointed to proceed to Chicago and protest against the removal of the body of Mr. Douglas from the State.

Washington, 3d. The Secretary of War has issued a general order deploring the death of Senator Douglas, to be read to the whole army tomorrow, and has ordered regimental colors to be draped in mourning.

New York, 3d. Despatches from various cities and towns in the West, state that the death of Senator Douglas is being appropriately noticed.

Manchester, N. H., 3d. All the large flags were lowered today on receipt of the news of Senator Douglas's death.

Re the
Manchester
N. H.

LAST HOURS OF JUDGE DOUGLAS.

At about eleven o'clock on Sunday morning Bishop Duggan called at the request of friends to converse with Mr. Douglas, who was then, for the first time, perfectly rational. Mr. Douglas immediately recognized the Bishop, and expressed his gratification at the visit. Bishop Duggan soon asked,

"Mr. Douglas, have you been baptized according to the rites of any church?" Mr. Douglas replied,

"Never."

The Bishop continued: "Do you desire to have mass said after the ordinances of the holy Catholic Church?" The answer was,

"No, sir; when I do I will communicate with you freely."

The Bishop then turned to Mr. Rhodes and said,

"Do you think he is fully possessed of his mental faculties?" Mr. Rhodes replied, "I do not know—perhaps you had better ask him again." The Bishop repeated his question, to which Mr. Douglas answered, in strong, full voice,

"You perhaps do not understand me. When I desire it, I will communicate with you freely."

The Bishop then remarked to Mr. Rhodes, "He is undoubtedly in his right mind, and does not desire my offices." He then withdrew.

During the day (Sunday) Mr. Douglas seemed to be much better, and strong hopes were entertained of his recovery; he slept most of the day, and in the evening seemed much refreshed. Mrs. Douglas and Mr. Rhodes remained with him during the night. At about four o'clock on Monday morning he seemed to be much worse, and sank rapidly; his friends were sent for, and at the request of Mrs. Douglas Bishop Duggan again visited him. Soon after the Bishop entered he approached the bedside, and addressing the patient, said,

"Mr. Douglas, you know your own condition fully, and in view of your approaching dissolution, do you desire the ceremony of extreme unction to be performed?"

Mr. Douglas replied,

"No, I have no time to discuss these things now."

The Bishop then withdrew. After he had gone Mrs. Douglas requested Mr. Rhodes to ask her husband if he desired the ministrations of any other clergyman. Mr. Rhodes then said to Mr. Douglas:

"Do you know the clergymen of this city?" To which Mr. Douglas replied,

"Nearly every one of them."

Mr. Rhodes— "Do you wish to have either or any of them call to see you to converse upon religious subjects?"

Mr. Douglas— "No, I thank you."

Soon after this, about five o'clock, he desired to have his position in bed changed, the blinds opened and the windows raised. Mr. Rhodes lifted him to an easier posture, where he could look out upon the street, and drank in the fresh morning air. For a few moments he seemed to gain new life. Then he began to sink away; his eyes partially closed, and in slow and measured cadence, with a considerable pause between each accent, he uttered,

"Death!—death!—death!"

After this he seemed to revive slightly, and Mr. Rhodes asked him whether he had any message to send to his mother, or sister Sarah, or his boys, "Robby" and "Stevie," to which he made no reply, evidently not understanding the question. Mrs. Douglas then placed her arms around his neck and said,

"My dear, do you know cousin Dan?"

"Yes," he replied.

Mrs. Douglas continued:

"Your boys, Robby and Stevie, and your mother and sister Sarah—have you any message for them?"

The dying man replied,

"Tell them to obey the laws and support the Constitution of the United States."

At about five o'clock Dr. Miller came into the room, and, noticing the open shutters and windows, inquired,

"Why have you all these windows raised and so much light?"

Mr. Douglas replied,

"So that we can have fresh air."

At Mr. Douglas's request Mr. Rhodes changed the dying man's position again in the bed for the last time. He now lay rather down in the middle of the bed, upon his left side, his head slightly bent forward and off the pillow. His wife sat beside him, holding his right hand in both of hers, and leaning tenderly over him, sobbing. Mr. Rhodes remarked to Mrs. Douglas,

"I am afraid he does not lie comfortable;" in reply to which Mr. Douglas said,

"He is—very comfortable."

These were his last intelligible words. From five o'clock he was speechless, but evidently retained his consciousness. When, a few minutes before his death, his wife leaned lovingly over him and sobbingly asked, "Husband, do you know me? will you kiss me?" he raised his eye and smiled, and though too weak to speak, the movements of the muscles of his mouth evinced that he was making an almost dying struggle to comply with her request.

His death was calm and peaceful; a few faint breaths after nine o'clock; a slight rattling in his throat, a short, quick, convulsive shudder, and Stephen A. Douglas had passed from time into eternity.

The march on Philippi and the rout of the Secession troops there was a gallant affair, and but for the terrible roads and the want of proper guides would have proved of much greater importance. The attacking party on the Secession camp at Philippi consisted of four regiments in two divisions, one consisting

THE BODY OF JUDGE DOUGLAS LYING IN STATE
At Bryan Hall, Chicago, Illinois.

The remains of Mr. Douglas were removed from the Fremont House at one o'clock, Tuesday afternoon, June 4th, under escort of the Chicago Light Guard, Sturgis Rifles and Seamon Light Infantry, the Committees of Citizens, of the Common Council, and Committees of the different Civic Associations. The processions were under the charge of Howard Priestly, Esq., Assistant Marshal. Upon arriving at Bryan Hall the remains were placed upon a pedestal, guard was mounted by the Chicago Light Guard, and the citizens commenced, in solemn silence, paying their last respects to the illustrious dead.

Under the direction of the Committee of Thirty, Bryan Hall had been most tastefully arranged and decorated. The pedestal for the reception of the coffin was dressed in black, ornamented with thirty-four stars, and placed under a canopy of black crape, trimmed with white, and relieved with a gilt border, the whole surmounted by an eagle. From the talons of the eagle the flag of the Union fell gracefully to the four columns supporting the canopy. At the foot of the coffin stood a broken column, at its head a vase of beautifully variegated flowers. The gallery itself was decorated with American flags. Around the middle of the stage were four large American flags looped in festoons with crape, in the centre of which hung a portrait of Judge Douglas, painted by Healy some fifteen years since. The front of the stage was beautifully ornamented with pots of living flowers from the cemetery nursery.

Transcript CHICAGO, June 7th, 1861.

THE FUNERAL OF MR. DOUGLAS. *Dear Transcript:* Every part of our city has been clothed in mourning since the day on which Mr. Douglas died. Crowds of strangers have been here from all sections of the Northwest; and though he laid in state at Bryan Hall for three days, the throng, eager to look upon the face of the illustrious dead, was as large yesterday afternoon as at any previous time. After the first rush was over, and the arrangements of the committee were understood by the public, there was no confusion. People fell into a line on Clark street, from the North and the South, and entered the hall in single file, and passed by the corpse, directly through the building. No one was allowed to linger for a single moment. The hall was very appropriately decorated, and presented a scene of imposing solemnity. Those who knew the deceased well, thought his face had a very natural expression. I had seen him often in public, but I was never before so much impressed with the traits of greatness that marked his features, as when I stood over him in Bryan Hall. His head was very large, and all the intellectual developments were unusually prominent.

During the last few days of his life, Mr. Douglas was a portion of the time partially delirious. His lucid intervals were very brief, and he said but little. He laid chiefly in a semi-conscious state, and could be aroused only by great effort. In his wandering moods, his mind run entirely upon his country and its perils. He seemed to be thinking of the army and the Government. Among the last words he uttered were in reply to a question proposed by Mrs. Douglas, who asked if he had anything to say. With emphasis and distinctness he answered "*Tell my boys to love and obey the Constitution.*" This message of the dying patriot to his sons was significant, and showed his ardent love for his country, and his high appreciation of the Constitution. Already the message has passed into a motto that graces the windows of stores and public buildings, and ere a week has elapsed it will be repeated in every part of the country. And it will live in history, and have a good mission in keeping alive the loyalty of our people. What a rebuke it administers to those who are trampling upon the Constitution, and seeking the ruin of our country!

While Mr. Douglas had great reverence for the forms of religion, he was connected with no church, and had no particular partiality for any one denomination. Not long before his death, and while in full possession of his faculties, he was asked whether he desired a visit from any clergyman. His answer was no—for he had no faith in a death-bed repentance, and thought every man in the next world would be estimated, as here, according to his worth; and that God's government there would be equal and merciful, at it is here. He had no confidence in a momentary emotion to fix the destiny of a human being forever. Still he said, if his wife or friends desired that a clergyman should visit, any one might be called that was agreeable to them. Mrs. Douglas is a Catholic, and her wishes in the selection of a clergyman were heeded, and the bishop of her church visited him. But he expressed no adherence to that faith, and no partiality for it.

Contrary to the first arrangement, Mr. Douglas will be buried in Chicago, near the University toward the establishment of which he gave ten acres of land. It is a beautiful place, in the Southern section of the city, on the lake shore. He owned quite a large tract of land in that vicinity, and some years ago gave Mrs. Douglas a deed of some fifteen acres. It is rumored that she intends to make her home there. She is entitled to great commendation for relinquishing her purpose to bury him in Washington. That has ever been her home, and she earnestly desired to have his remains lie there. The remonstrance, however, from every part of the State, was so strong, so full of feeling, that she yielded her own wishes, no doubt realizing that there was justice in the claim of our people to the remains of their distinguished statesman. He belonged to Illinois, he was proud of the State, and ardently devoted to all its interests; and his body should lie where they can place over it a fitting monument, which successive generations may visit. Truly, wherever buried, Mr. Douglas will be remembered by the people of this State; for he has been one of its greatest benefactors, and had a guiding agency in laying the foundations of its present greatness. If Washington should have been buried in Mount Vernon, and Webster in Marshfield, Douglas should sleep in "Cottage Grove."

Last evening the Masonic Fraternity held a funeral service at Bryan Hall. The exercises were conducted with great propriety and the occasion was one of very deep solemnity. The Hall was densely crowded, and would have been if twenty thousand could have gained admission. The Order presented a fine appearance, and the address by H. A. Johnson, Esq., was appropriate, though very brief.

The day has been unusually clear and pleasant, and the funeral procession was very large. As it moved up Michigan avenue it presented an impressive appearance. The car containing the body of the distinguished Senator and statesman, was drawn by six white horses, and attended by about fifty of our principal citizens as pall bearers. Mrs. Douglas and her children followed. The crowd was great, and all countenances wore an expression of deep sadness. I did not go to the grave, but understand that the services were solemn and appropriate. S.



THE BODY OF JUDGE DOUGLAS LYING IN STATE, AT BRYAN HALL CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, JUNE 4. 1861. - FROM A SKETCH BY FRANK JONES, LITHOGRAPHIC ARTIST, CHICAGO.—SEE PAGE 74.

THE PRESIDENT AND HIS RIVAL. Let it be remembered that at the tomb of Douglas, there will be no more sincere mourner, no one more stricken with grief, than his old rival and competitor—Abraham Lincoln. [Chicago Post.]

We can well imagine with what deep feeling of sorrow President Lincoln heard the announcement of the death of Judge Douglas. Though almost life-long political opponents—leaders respectively of the two great opposing parties in this State—yet personally they have always been on warm terms of friendship, which was strikingly illustrated when, in 1858, at the close of the eventful Senatorial campaign between the two champions, Mr. Lincoln was one of the first to congratulate Judge Douglas on his reelection; and again, at Washington, immediately after the inauguration of Mr. Lincoln as President, when Judge Douglas was the first man to congratulate him both upon his official position and the policy enunciated in the inaugural in reference to the Southern rebellion.

One of the most conclusive marks of a true manhood and a great mind, is this spirit of generous magnanimity which does not allow partizan or sectarian differences of opinion, nor even active rivalry for political honors and distinctions, to interrupt private personal relations of friendship. In this, both Judge Douglas and Mr. Lincoln have demonstrated those generous impulses of heart and soul which adorn and do honor to human character. [Chicago Journal.]

Boston Herald
June 28, 1861

MEETING OF THE FRIENDS OF DOUGLAS.

The admirers of the late Senator Douglas in this city met at the Meionaeon at noon today, to consider what steps should be taken in this State to raise a fund for the benefit of his widow and family. Edward Riddle, Esq., called the meeting to order. C. A. Welch, Esq., was chosen chairman, and F. O. Prince, Secretary.

The chairman read an address from S. K. Casey and others of Illinois, in which an appeal is made for the raising of a fund for the redemption of the property of Mr. Douglas at Cottage Grove, and for the support of his widow and children. The sums collected are to be sent to Hon. John D. Caton, Chief Justice of Illinois, who has been appointed Receiver.

Mr. Prince offered the following resolutions for the consideration of the assembly:

Resolved, That the eminent public services of Stephen A. Douglas—his large patriotism—his unselfish surrender of personal and partisan feelings for the public good in the hour of his country's peril—his zealous labors in behalf of the Union, and in vindication of that "glorious Constitution which makes us one people," render his loss a public calamity—commend his memory to the affectionate keeping of his countrymen, and entitle him to a high place on the roll of the illustrious patriots and statesmen of the republic.

Resolved, That it is alike the duty and the privilege of the American people to make that provision for the maintenance and support of the family of the deceased statesman which he was estopped from effecting by reason of the constant devotion of his time and energies to the public service, and that, in view of this obligation, we heartily respond to the address to the people of the United States, signed by Samuel K. Casey and others of Illinois, in which it is proposed to raise by subscription a fund for the benefit of the family of the deceased.

Resolved, That a committee be appointed at this meeting to take proper measures to collect throughout Massachusetts subscriptions of not more than one dollar each for this fund, and that they be authorized to add to their number such other gentlemen as they may see fit.

Resolved, That the Hon. G. T. Bigelow, Peter T. Homer, Esq., and Richard S. Fay, Esq., be requested to receive and take charge of the amounts as collected, and to remit them from time to time to the Hon. J. D. Caton, of the Supreme Court of Illinois, who has been designated by our fellow citizens of that State as receiver of the fund.

Mayor Wightman, in seconding the resolutions, said it gave him pleasure to express the confidence he felt that the city and State would respond liberally to the appeal.

Americans are not in the habit of raising monuments to their distinguished dead, but the best monument to a deceased statesman was in the hearts of his countrymen.

Edward Riddle and Oliver Stevens also advocated the resolutions in fitting language. The resolves were unanimously adopted.

Messrs. Riddle, Stevens, Bell, Dexter, Doherty and Bates were appointed to select a general committee to collect subscriptions throughout the State. This committee were instructed to report in the papers the names of the gentlemen selected to solicit donations from the whole Commonwealth.

The following letter from the Hon. Edward Everett to Hon. Amos A. Lawrence, was read to the meeting:

SUMMER STREET, June 28th, 1861.

My Dear Sir: It is not in my power to attend the meeting of the friends of the late Judge Douglas to be held today. Should you attend the meeting, you will greatly oblige me by saying to the gentlemen present, that I fully sympathize with them in the feelings with which it is called, and shall be most happy to do my share in promoting the object in view. I had a great personal regard for Judge Douglas, and fully appreciate his patriotic course in the present momentous crisis.

With great regard,

Sincerely yours,

EDWARD EVERETT.

SECESSION POSTMASTERS RENDER-
ING THEIR ACCOUNTS.

Monument to Senator Douglas.

COM. DAHLGREN'S NEW RIFLED CANNON.

THE MARCH ON HARPER'S FERRY.

OPERATIONS OF THE REBELS.

THE ROMNEY EXPEDITION.

VISIT OF THE PRESIDENT TO THE
TROOPS.

FLIGHT OF REBELS.

PROCLAMATION OF GOVERNOR JACKSON
OF MISSOURI.

FIFTY THOUSAND STATE TROOPS
CALLED FOR.

Washington, 13th. Secretary Chase has addressed another circular to Collectors of Customs, further instructing them to exercise the utmost vigilance in arresting and detaining all merchandise for insurgents or places under their control.

The Postmaster General is engaged in determining on the new style of stamped envelope to be ready for public use in a few days. The new stamp will not be furnished until the 1st of August. About two dozen Postmasters in the seceded States have returned the balance of stamped envelopes and stamps, in sums varying from eighty cents to fifty dollars. The Postmaster at Mobile has honorably accounted for \$2000 worth. The Postmaster of Memphis, while holding on to such property to the amount of \$8000, recently sent for an additional supply of a larger value, but this was refused, his dishonest intentions having been detected.

Col. Meigs today accepted the President's commission as Quartermaster General, and entered upon the duties of his office. Major Silby is assigned to the same department, with brevet of Colonel.

The President this afternoon, with Secretaries Chase and Cameron, visited the entrenchments on the Virginia side. A troop of cavalry followed in the same direction.

The opinion prevails in the State Department that all foreign governments will refuse any recognition or countenance to seceded States, and will neither shelter their privateers nor aid them with arms, money or loans.

Brigadier General Schenk of Ohio is assigned the command of the two Ohio regiments now here.

A Michigan regiment and another is soon to arrive here.

A number of the friends of Mr. Douglas, representing various States, held a meeting tonight for the purpose of concerting measures to erect a suitable monument in his honor, and to make preparations for the delivery of an eulogy on the deceased, on the evening of the 4th of July. Another meeting is to be held on Wednesday next at the City Hall.

At the navy yard at 6 o'clock this evening, Commander Dahlgren practiced with a new rifled cannon of six-inch bore, with half a charge of powder, 4 pounds. The cannon threw metal near 2½ miles, the ball striking on the Virginia shore. The last experiment, which was with shell, threw the latter almost four miles. The cannon is an invention of Commander Dahlgren, and is just finished. The experiment was highly satisfactory in all respects.

All the camps on this side of the river have been visited today, but no indications of a movement are apparent.

The health of the troops on both sides of the river is excellent, the few sick being so from slight diseases, incidental mainly to the heat.

A large number of new pieces have been forwarded to Alexandria for the entrenchments of the Fire Zouaves.

Arlington Heights, Va., 13th. A scouting party to Village Falls Church, nine miles from Washington, was received with many demonstrations of joy by the residents, who expressed a strong desire to have the place permanently occupied by Federal troops.

The secessionists have all fled at Springhill, eight miles from Alexandria. A locomotive with two cars was unable to proceed to the latter place because the rebels had burnt the bridges, but those having been built within the past two days, a detachment from the 99th Regiment went down in a train to Alexandria, where they were greeted with great enthusiasm. The locomotive was to be placed on the Manassas Railroad for the United States Government.

Parties are continually bringing in prisoners, but it is difficult to discover any within several miles of the camp.

Private Sheehan, who was accidentally shot, is doing well.

A Union man who has been detained at Fairfax Court House, yesterday made his escape and reports, what is confirmed by other statements, that the rebel force there consists of less than 700 men, infantry and cavalry, badly armed with fowling pieces.

Alexandria, 13th. Mr. Brown, a miller of this city, has just returned from the vicinity of Romney. He reports that after the rebels had retreated some distance, they were reinforced and marched to Romney. The small Federal force remaining there retired, leaving a number of stacks of arms behind.

The President, in company with Secretaries Cameron and Chase, visited the Massachusetts 5th and the Pennsylvania 5th camps this evening. The Michigan regiment was drawn up in review. They subsequently visited the New Jersey camp at Long Bridge.

A supposed spy named Dickinson was arrested last night, four miles out.

Two locomotives and twelve cars arrived today.

An order has been issued restraining soldiers from loitering about the streets.

A member of the Pennsylvania Fifth had a joint of his finger blown off while on guard last night. He asserts that he fired upon some unknown person.

New York, 13th. A despatch to the Commercial says that the outpost of the Pennsylvania Fifth was attacked at Alexandria this morning by the rebels, and a private wounded.

Hagerstown, 13th. General Cadwallader and staff reached Greencastle today. He takes command of the division which will cross the Potomac at Williamsport, or some ford near there. Kelm commands the division which moves through Hagerstown and Sharsburg directly to Harper's Ferry. The fourth brigade has reached a point three miles below Greencastle. General Patterson will soon remove his headquarters to this place. Active work is rapidly approaching. Col. Miles commands the fourth brigade. The fourth Connecticut regiment is in camp six miles below Chambersburg; one Wisconsin regiment, Col. Starkweather, is with them. The eleventh Pennsylvania regiment has also arrived. The drill lasts eight hours a day. The only disease prevalent is diarrhoea, which is occasioned by drinking the lime water.

The forward movement on this point is confidently expected tomorrow. The government will probably take possession of the telegraph office tomorrow. It is said by persons who escaped from Virginia yesterday, that the Confederates shot a Union man named Wilt on Tuesday, because he would not enlist. His death roused a wonderful feeling in Berkeley county. The troops from Harper's Ferry have pressed into service all the wagons in Jefferson and Loudon counties. The first Southern mail from Richmond has arrived at Martinsburg. An intelligent officer on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad says they (the rebels) haul everything they can procure in the neighborhood of Opequan Creek, and take it thence by rail to Harper's Ferry. He also says the rebel officers don't claim over 15,000 men to be there. They told him on Tuesday that 1500 North and South Carolinians were leaving

Winchester. He heard from a number of soldiers that the small pox and measles were prevalent. The rebels at Martinsburg are moving their slaves South in considerable numbers. A large wagon train arrived here this evening.

The Congressional election is passing off quietly. There is no public opposition to Thomas (Unionist).

by express that the Virginians are engaged every night with dark lanterns drilling holes in the solid rock on which dam No. 4 rests, on the Virginia side, to blow up the same. Should they make successive heavy blasts, the dam must give way.

Heavy firing is going on at dam No. 4, and a company of forty-five sharpshooters has gone from Bloomsboro' to assist the Sharpsburg company.

It is reported that four Virginians were badly wounded whilst boring at the rock. An express starts immediately for that point, and will return tomorrow.

St. Louis, 13th. The proclamation of Governor Jackson to the people of Missouri states that a series of unprovoked outrages had been inflicted on the peace and dignity of the Commonwealth, and upon the rights and liberties of its people, by wicked, unprincipled men, professing to act under the authority of the United States Government. The solemn enactments in your Legislature have been nullified, your volunteer soldiers have been taken prisoners, your commerce with sister States has been suspended, your trade with your own fellow citizens has been and is subject to an increasing control of an armed soldiery; peaceful citizens have been imprisoned, unoffending defenceless men, women and children have been ruthlessly shot down and murdered, and other unbearable indignities have been heaped upon your State and yourselves.

The Governor then relates his action in the premises, stating that the Federal Government disapproved of the arrangement made by Gen. Harney with Gen. Price, and has since carried out the system of hostile operations in utter contempt thereof. He also states the particulars of his interview with Gen. Lyon and Col. Blair, at which, he says, he pledged himself not to attempt to organize the militia under the military bill; that no arms or munitions of war should be brought into the State; that he (Jackson) would protect all citizens equally in all their rights, regardless of their political opinions; that he would repress all insurrectionary movements within the State; that he would repel all attempts to invade it from whatever quarter, and thus maintain strict neutrality in the present unhappy contest and preserve peace in the State; and further, would, if necessary, invoke the assistance of the United States troops to carry out these pledges.

This was on condition that the Federal Government would undertake to disarm the Home Guards, and pledge itself to occupy with its troops any localities not occupied by them at this time. The terms were rejected by the Federal officers, who demanded the disorganization and disarming of the State militia and the nullification of the military bill, and refused to disarm their own Home Guards, and insisted that the Federal Government should enjoy the unrestricted right to move and station its troops throughout the State, whenever and wherever that right, in the opinion of its officers, be necessary, and plainly avowed that it was the intention of the Administration to take military occupation of the whole State. The Governor says he refused to accede to these degrading terms. He then says all our efforts toward conciliation failed, and therefore calls the State militia, to the number of 50,000, into active service, for the purpose of repelling invasion, and for the protection of the lives, liberty and property of citizens.

He exhorts all the good citizens of Missouri to rally to the flag of the State for the defence of their most sacred rights. Still he deems it a solemn duty to remind them that Missouri is still one of the United States; that he does not arrogate to himself the power to disturb that relation—that power belongs to a Convention, which will at a proper time express the sovereign will of the people—and in the meantime it is their duty to obey all constitutional requirements of the Federal Government; but it is also his duty to advise that their first allegiance is due to their own State, and that they are under no obligation whatever to obey unconstitutional edicts of a military despotism, which has introduced itself at Washington, nor submit to the infamous and degrading sway of its minions in this State. No brave and true-hearted Missourian will obey the one nor submit to the other. Rise, then, and drive out, ignominiously, the invaders who have dared to desecrate the soil which your labors have made fruitful and which is consecrated by your homes.

Hermann, Mo., June 13. It is reported that the State troops have a battery on Dodd's Island, just below the mouth of Osage river, and that there are no troops at Osage bridge.

A steamer just from Jefferson city reports that troops are concentrating there rapidly; 1200 are reported to be on the way from Sabine county, Gov. Jackson's residence, and 500 from Cooper county. Both are secession strongholds.

THE EULOGIES upon Judge Douglas in the Senate on Tuesday last were unusually eloquent and discriminating. They were made by Messrs. Trumbull of Illinois, McDougal of California, Colman of Vermont, Anthony of Rhode Island, and Browning of Illinois. The gentleman last named, has been appointed successor of Mr. Douglas until an election is made by the State legislature. We make these extracts from his first address in the Senate:

Mr. Browning, (Rep., Ill.) said as the successor of the distinguished deceased, he wished to add his humble tribute to his worth and high character. He referred to Mr. Douglas's early political life, and gave some details of a severe struggle in which both himself and Mr. Douglas participated; and then, referring to Mr. Douglas's closing career between the fall of Sumter and his untimely death, he said—Then, for the first time in all our history, a rebel hand was raised in hostility to our country's flag, endeavoring to rend its stripes and pluck the bright stars from their field. We had but recently passed through a fiery political contest, in which Senator Douglas had been the chosen and almost adored standard bearer of the great party which was laboring to lift him to a position equal in dignity, honor and power to any on earth. Political parties were never more hostile. There were two unrelenting hosts—one under the lead of the illustrious Senator, and one which followed the fortunes of our honored Chief Magistrate. But the object of the Senator's most intense desire, to the attainment of which he had devoted his energies and his unflagging industry—an object compatible with the purest and loftiest patriotism, and the most exalted ambition—had eluded his grasp, and was in the possession of his most distinguished rival.

The party which he no doubt honestly believed to be adverse to the truest and best interests of the Republic, and the man who represented that party, and with whom he had maintained a life-long conflict, always earnest, sometimes bitter, were installed in power, while his own friends were scattered and despised. On the other hand, many who had in former times stood with him, had embarked in an enterprise which had for its object, not the overthrow of a party, but the dismemberment of the Union and the destruction of the Government. He had to break with many of his most trusted and distinguished friends of former days, and to fraternize with his fiercest political foes, or else he had to remove his allegiance to the Constitution he had sworn to maintain, and prostitute his noble powers in plotting its overthrow. What his internal conflicts may have been we cannot know. What our own would have been under such circumstances we dare not say.

But we do know whatever the struggle in his own breast may have been, it was brief. We do know that the patriot triumphed over the partisan, and that he threw the entire weight of his great influence on the side of his country in the hour of her greatest need. We do know that the indignity done in Charleston harbor to the Stars and Stripes, at once the emblem of the power and beneficence of the Government, the venerated memento of the sufferings and the sacrifices, of the virtue, wisdom and patriotism of our illustrious sires, that the atrocious assault of banded cohorts of treason upon a weak, worn, and enfeebled garrison, loyal and faithful to their highest and holiest duties, awakened all the enthusiasm, the indignation, and patriotism of his ardent nature, and he enlisted all his energy unconditionally in the service of his country.

We do know that the patriot achieved a great but easy conquest over the partisan, and that he heartily, warmly, and with a zeal befitting the momentous occasion, united with those who had heretofore denounced him, in standing to uphold the Government and sustain the constitution, and vindicate the claim of the National Government to the obedience of all its citizens, and who should be foremost and most efficient, most self-sacrificing in the holy cause of the Republic, rich in the cherished memories of the past, abundant in blessings for the present, and radiant with hope for the future, was the only rivalry between him and them. It was a noble and exalted rivalry, worthy of a great cause, a great mind, and fitted to shed lustre upon the most eminent statesman and patriot.

Would he could have lived to continue this generous strife until this most wicked attempt was crushed out, and the footprint of the traitor no longer desecrated American soil. There was something heroic in the decision and promptitude with which he rent asunder all personal and party ties, and dashed from him the fetters which had

once bound him to those who were now traitors, and something almost sublime in the terrible energy with which he denounced treason, and lashed with imprecations the traitors against the government under whose fostered care he had struggled laboriously and successfully up the rugged steep, and taken his place in a conspicuous niche in the Temple of Fame.

In times of peace Senator Douglas was a partisan necessary, from his strong and ardent nature. He fought the battle of life bravely, and now the battle is over; he reposes quietly beneath the green sod of his adopted State, in the full vigor of his mental energies, and just at a time when his services would seem to have been most needed in the great cause of human rights, he has been cut down by the fiat of that wisdom which never errs. That he had extraordinary endowments, no one will deny, whatever contrariety of opinion may exist as to the influence of his peculiar views. The testimony of the nation, and the verdict of posterity, and the judgment of history, will be that he went down with his patriotism unseduced and with no taint upon his escutcheon. His name is indissolubly connected with his country's history, and all the just and good will bend reverently over the records of his closing career.

LINCOLN INDIVIDUAL CAUSE

OF D. DEATH

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
COLLEGE OF SCIENCE, LITERATURE, AND THE ARTS
MINNEAPOLIS

DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

January 22, 1941

Dr. L. K. Warren
Lincoln Life Insurance Company
Fort Wayne, Indiana

Dear Dr. Warren:

If you care to send Lincoln Lore to Rev. H.L. Russell, 4238 Elmer Avenue, Morningside, Minneapolis, you will have an interested and influential reader.

Doubtless you know all about it, but in George D. Dayton's Autobiography (privately printed, 1933) I found (p.177) something quite new to me, related as a personal reminiscence of Stephen A. Douglas' sister-- that President Lincoln, when Illinois was threatening secession, sent for Douglas in the night and induced him to stump the state to keep it in the Union. Douglas went, and caught the cold which caused his death. When Lincoln heard of it, he wept, and said he was "the cause of it all".

Carrying coals to Newcastle, flour to Minneapolis, insurance to Fort Wayne ?

Cordially

Gray B. Conger

Douglas: Death of a Patriot.

CHICAGO HISTORY

VOLUME VI

Spring, 1961

NUMBER 3

BY TELEGRAPH.

A FEARFUL CRISIS AT HAND!

THE WAR BEGUN!

Fort Sumter Attacked by the Rebels

**PROMPT RESPONSE BY MAJ.
ANDERSON.**

***The Assault Continued During
the Day.***

TO BE KEPT UP DURING THE NIGHT.

God! Protect the Right!

THE CONFEDERATE WAR DISPATCHES.

**Reverdy Johnson and Gov. Hicks
Endorse the Course of the
Administration.**

Chicago Tribune Headlines, April 14, 1861

Published Quarterly by the

CHICAGO HISTORICAL SOCIETY



Death of a Patriot

ON THE MORNING of Monday, June 3, 1861, Stephen A. Douglas died in his rooms at the Tremont House.

The sad news spread quickly. The Court House bell began to toll, and knots of people gathered before the newspaper offices to read the bulletins. Before noon mourning festoons, wreaths, and pendants appeared on business fronts. Flags dropped to half-mast. J. H. McVicker announced that his theater would be closed until after the funeral. The Board of Trade met and passed resolutions expressing sorrow and regret; so did the city council. Courts adjourned. A citizens' meeting was held at noon for the purpose of planning a ceremonial funeral, and the Masonic fraternity announced that its members would take part in the procession. (Douglas had joined the order as a young man in Springfield.)

The body, it was announced, would lie in state at Bryan Hall on Tuesday and on Wednesday until 6:00 p.m., when a procession would escort the hearse to the Fort Wayne depot for shipment to Washington, where interment would take place.

The *Tribune* recalled the reception tendered to the dead statesman on the night of May 1—"memorable among all the welcomes ever tendered by Chicago to those she delighted to honor. . . . That meeting will never be forgotten by those who witnessed its glorious proof, how a common love of country had blotted out party lines, abolished political enmities, and made to be recognized only the tests of faithfulness to the country and the laws."

Douglas's death was not unexpected. On the evening of the great reception Douglas confessed that he was not well and that he would have to have a rest before he could return to Washington. The next day a physician was called. Word spread that the Senator was seriously ill, but his condition did not become alarming until the middle of May. His Washington physician was summoned, and came to Chicago

with Madison Cutts, Mrs. Douglas's brother. The illness was diagnosed as acute rheumatism which rapidly assumed a "typhoid character" and was then complicated by an ulcerated sore throat and jaundice. In the last days of his illness Douglas was often delirious, but he died quietly. (One able physician of my acquaintance believes that death was caused by a streptococcal infection, for which there was then no countervailing drug.)

The *Tribune* accompanied its report of Douglas's death with a long editorial. The editor devoted most of his space to a review of Douglas's life, but took pains to make the paper's position clear. "It is known," he wrote, "that the Chicago *Tribune* had no sympathy with the political movements of the late Senator since 1853. He was content to go his way, and we ours. He had one line of policy, and we another. In all these years of difference, we have shared with others the animosity that our prejudices or his acts provoked; and he even was not exempt from the infirmity which afflicts all partisans. We draw a veil over that distracted period, and leave the historian to decide whether he and his friends, or his opposers, ourselves among the number, were right. We have nothing to apologize for—nothing to extenuate—and he would have had nothing to unsay had he lived.

"But," the *Tribune* continued, "in all partisan strifes there come moments when the enmities and hates engendered by conflicting views and personal ambitions, are beaten down and conquered by danger which all men must share. One of these moments has been upon us; it brought about a union which years would have cemented. Only yesterday Judge Douglas and the *Tribune* stood upon the same platform. The imminent period of the present had put all old things out of sight; and side by side with him we stood for the defence, the honor and the perpetuity of the great Republic; and now uncovered and reverently looking into his grave, we can say that a Patriot reposes therein. . . . Today, the signs of sorrow and the habiliments of woe, the subdued voice, the measured tread and the look of grief everywhere



Stephen A. Douglas

From a carte-de-visite photograph, probably 1861

observable among all parties and men of all creeds, are proofs that the heart of the country is wounded, and the people, now all sensible of his value, will profoundly and sincerely mourn their irreparable loss."

Tuesday, June 4, brought further evidences of sorrow and mourning. Black and purple draperies increased in

number. Many citizens wore funeral rosettes; others backed tintype campaign badges with crepe or black ribbon and pinned them on their clothing. Busts and portraits of the Little Giant, draped in mourning, appeared in store windows. Even drays, street cars, and omnibuses were festooned with black cloth.

Tuesday also brought changes of plan. Douglas's body would be buried in Chicago instead of in Washington. The place chosen was his own estate in the vicinity of Cottage Grove Avenue, Thirty-fifth Street, and the lake. And the funeral would be delayed until the arrival of his two sons, then attending school in Georgetown.

At 1:00 p.m., Tuesday, the casket was escorted from the Tremont House to Bryan Hall by three military companies and a procession of citizens. Immediately the Chicago Light Guard posted a guard of honor. Until 6:00 a procession of solemn, sorrowing people gazed on the dead man's face.

At this point an element of discord came to the surface. The *Tribune* reported: "The burial will probably take place in accordance with the wishes of Mrs. Douglas, after the rites and form of the Roman Catholic church, the Rev. Bishop Duggan officiating.

"Deceased was not connected publicly with any form of religious belief," the paper continued, "though never a scoffer, nor a skeptic. In the latter part of his illness he acceded to the wishes of his wife, and had several interviews with the Bishop of this diocese, Rev. James Duggan. At these interviews, Mr. Douglas more than once said and repeated, that he was connected with no church, but that he was willing to counsel with a clergyman of the faith in which his wife was a believer. On the occasion of the latest of these interviews, the Bishop read a prayer, an appointed one, which Mr. Douglas in a clear and solemn tone repeated after him. Obviously, dying without its pale, the last rites of the Church, appointed for the dying, were not administered to Mr. Douglas."

But the Masons were not about to yield the field. On the evening of June 6 the lodges of the city assembled in Bryan Hall and there performed their funeral rites.

The next morning, at 10:30, the funeral procession formed at Bryan Hall. Sixty-four pallbearers marched before the ornate hearse. In the leading carriages rode Mrs. Douglas, the two sons, Stephen, thirteen, and Robert, eleven, and Bishop Duggan in half-canonical attire. Sixteen military companies followed, then judges, public officials, civic and benevolent societies—five thousand marchers in all. While the cortege marched slowly toward its distant destination church bells tolled and a military company in Dearborn Park fired a measured salute. At the grave there were no religious rites: simply a eulogy by Bishop Duggan:

"May that blessed peace which he so ardently desired soon revisit our beloved country! May the great Consoler comfort her, who was a short time since the cherished wife of his bosom, but now a desolate widow! May our Father in Heaven protect the orphans to whom he bequeathed so touching a legacy, and may they walk worthy the fame of their illustrious father! That honored name is now written in indelible characters, in the Councils of his country. It is forever blended with the fame of his own State. He was the last of the great band of veteran statesmen, on whose like we shall not look soon again, and conspicuous amongst the names of those patriots and sages, shall ever shine the honored name of him whose loss a nation deploras today, the orator, the patriot, the statesman, STEPHEN A. DOUGLAS!"

The ceremony over, an Illinois Central train of fifty-eight cars, and nearly the entire rolling stock of the Chicago City Railway Company, took the mourners to the city.

The *Tribune* said the last words: "The obsequies of the day were over, and a memorable addition was made to the list of occasions where the people have thronged sad, yet eager for a parting tribute of respect to a great popular leader, for such will ever remain in the history of these times the name of Douglas."

Fifty Years Ago

As recorded by newspapers in the Society's collection.

MAR. 1, 1911. The United States Senate rejects, by a vote of 40 to 46, Albert J. Beveridge's resolution that William Lorimer of Chicago was not duly and legally elected to the Senate.

The White Sox are given a warm welcome at Mineral Wells, Texas, where they are to start spring training.

MAR. 3. A new Medinah Temple, to cost \$500,000, is to be erected on the site of the Lambert Tree residence at Cass (Wabash), Ohio, and Ontario streets.

Albert H. Loeb, vice-president of Sears, Roebuck and Company, buys the site of the historic Briggs House, northeast corner of Randolph and Wells streets, for \$500,000.

The Senate votes down an appropriation of \$25,000 to Lorimer for expenses incurred in defending his right to occupy his seat.

MAR. 4. Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Field, 1808 Prairie Avenue, give a dinner for Mr. and Mrs. Maldwin Drummond of England.

The Cubs, after preliminary spring training at West Baden, Indiana, arrive at New Orleans.

MAR. 5. Lorimer, returning to Chicago, is greeted at the Union station by three brass bands, 192 autos, and a crowd of 2500. William Hale Thompson leads the parade which escorts the Senator to his home.

Zion City places armed guards around a huge sign at the city limits:

ZION CITY—THE PERFECT CITY

No Tobacco—No Whiskey—No Beer

No Theaters—No Doctors—No Drugs

No Pork—No Oysters

A CLEAN CITY FOR A CLEAN PEOPLE

MAR. 7. President Taft appoints Walter L. Fisher of Chicago Secretary of the Interior in place of Richard A. Ballinger, resigned.

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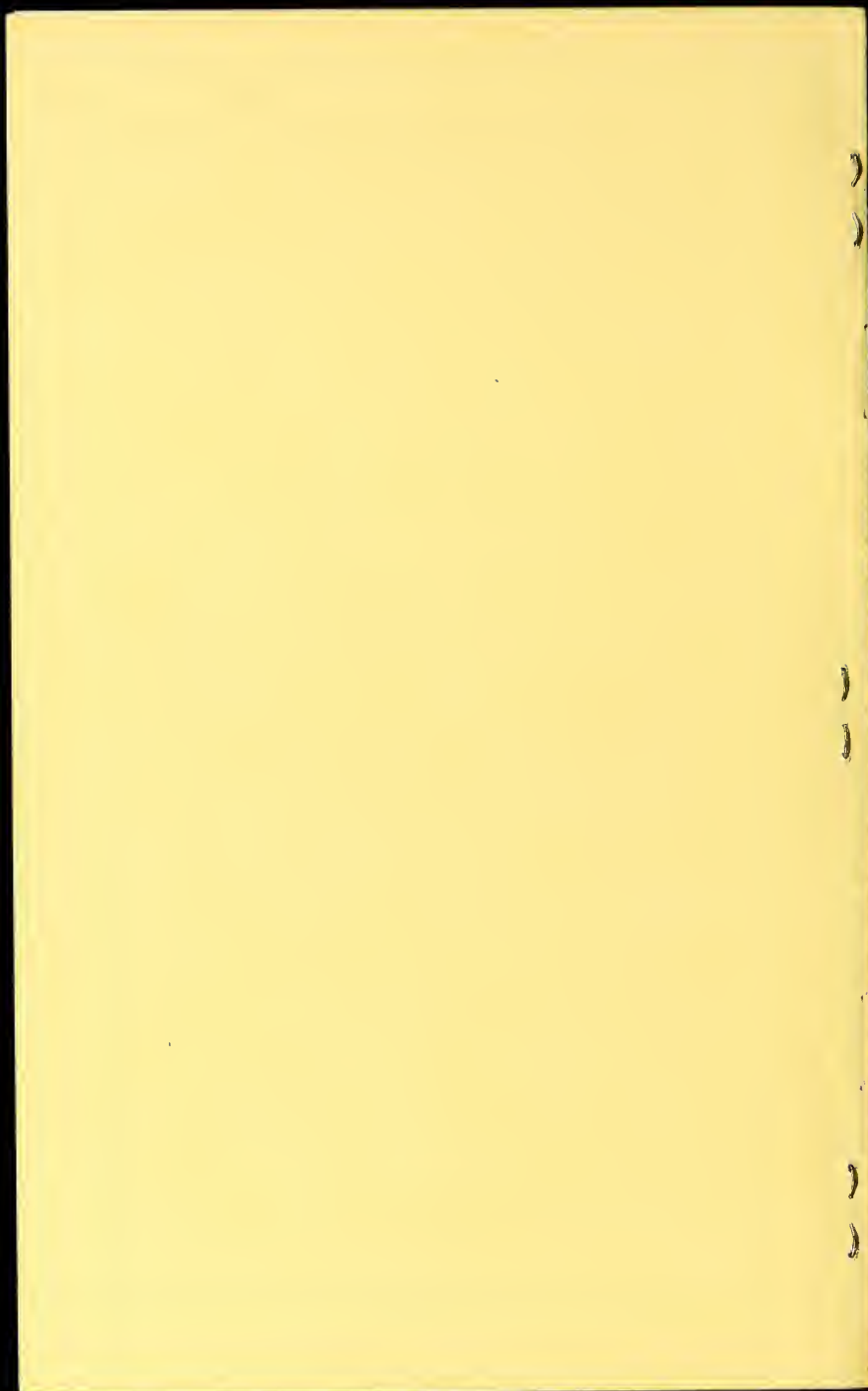
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